Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS

VOL. XXVII. SEPTEMBER 27, 1912. No. 39.

THE PLAGUE SITUATION.

PORTO RICO.

No case of plague has occurred in Porto Rico since the one reported at La Perla September 12. The total number of human cases reported to the present time remains 57.

During the week ended September 14 two plague-infected rats were found in Puerta de Tierra.

CALIFORNIA.

A plague-infected squirrel was found in Contra Costa County, on August 31 and one in Alameda County September 5. The diagnosis in each case was verified bacteriologically.

HONGKONG, CHINA.

During the week ended August 3 there were reported in Hongkong 15 cases of plague with 13 deaths.

POLIOMYELITIS (INFANTILE PARALYSIS).

POLIOMYELITIS TRANSMITTED BY THE BITING FLY, STOMOXYS CALCITRANS.

Prof. M. J. Rosenau, of Harvard University, announced at a meeting of the Fifteenth International Congress on Hygiene and Demography at Washington, September 26, that he had apparently succeeded in transmitting poliomyelitis (infantile paralysis) from sick to well monkeys by the bite of the common biting fly, *Stomoxys calcitrans*. He allowed a number of these flies to bite monkeys sick with poliomyelitis in various stages of the disease and then later allowed these same flies to bite 12 well monkeys. Of the 12 well monkeys thus bitten 6 became sick with well-marked symptoms of poliomyelitis, and of these, 3 died. Three of the 6 monkeys thus infected had diarrhea and symptoms of enteritis during the course of the illness.

The *Stomoxys calcitrans* resembles in size and appearance the common house fly. It is most frequently found in and around stables. It is, however, by no means uncommon in houses. It bites animals as well as man, and sucks their blood, upon which it feeds.

Dr. Rosenau concluded from his experiments that, after the virus of poliomyelitis is taken into the body of the fly by biting an infected animal or person, some time must elapse before the fly is capable of transmitting the disease, and that the period which must thus elapse is probably less than 21 days.